(b) Yes, Sir. Deployment of Reserved Trained Pool in incentive schemes on experimental basis have been implemented to counter the effect of absenteeism and to increase the outturn.

LPG Agencies to Technically qualified people

*90. SHRI N. RAJANGAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether technically qualified persons and educated unemployed youths have been given encouragement in the allotment of L.P.G. gas agencies in the country; and

(b) if so, the particulars thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) A reservation for Unemployed Graduates|Unemployed Engineering Graduates (UG|UEG) to the extent of 25 per cent exists in the allotment of LPG distributorships. Between 1982-83 and 1985-86, out of a total planned number of 2017 LPG distributorships in the country, 502 were reserved for the UG|UEG category.

Exploration of oil in off-shore and on-shore areas

*91 SHRI T. CHANDRASHEKHAR REDDY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the experts in the oil sector have cautioned his Ministry to ensure that the current low oil prices in the international market does not become a detriment to exploratory efforts for oil in the Indian off-shore and on-shore areas;

(b) if so, what steps Government are taking in the light of low oil prices in the international market for accelerating exploration drive;

(c) whether it is a fact that the prices of equipment and services have fallen sharply in the wake of oil glut; and

(d) if so, what steps Government propose to take the advantage of the decline in prices mentioned in part (c) above?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI CHANDRA SHEKHAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Government keeps a close watch on the trends and developments in the international oil markets. At present, Government proposes to maintain the 7th Five-Year Plan strategy to intensify exploration efforts in both on-shore and off-shore areas.

(c) and (d) International price of oil field equipment and services have been declining over last several months. Oil companies will take maximum possible advantage of these conditions in their procurement of equipment and services consistent with our policy of supporting efficient indigenisation of oil field equipment and services.

Telephone Corporation for Delhi and Bombay

*92. SHRI S. W. DHABE:
SHRI GHULAM RASOOL MATTO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the composition of the Board of Directors of the recently established Telephone Corporation for Delhi and Bombay;

(b) what would be its area of operation and its relations with the parent department;

(c) the number of employees and officers who are proposed to be transferred to this Corporation; and

(d) whether they would be guaranteed protection of their service conditions especially in the matter of seniority, promotion and emoluments etc.?

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